

# **Jianke གཅེན་ཁེར། Tibetan Village**

## **Water Project**

**Jinyuan གཞིག་གཞུང་། Tibetan Autonomous Township,**  
**Hualong རྒྱལ་ལྷུང་། Hui Autonomous County**  
**Haidong མཚོ་གསལ། Region**  
**Qinghai མཚོ་སྒྲོན། Province**  
**the People's Republic of China**

# **Final Report**

**to**

**The German Embassy**

*from*

**Lerjiater ལེ་རྒྱལ་ཐེན་པ་། Aaron**

**2007-9-29**

# Summary

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## What?

Running water for an impoverished Tibetan village

## Where?

Jianke Tibetan Village, Jinyuan Tibetan Autonomous Township

Hualong Hui Autonomous County, Haidong Region

Qinghai Province, PR China

## Who?

41 impoverished families and 1 village primary school

Number of beneficiaries = 362 people

## Cost?

German Embassy contribution = 71,300 RMB

Local contribution = 68,250 RMB

Total project value = 139,550 RMB

# Photographs

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Jianke Tibetan Village.



Project manager, Lerjiater (Aaron, standing, in blue coat), meets with Shar Dzong Development Group members in order to plan the project.



Young girls do not attend school in winter months. Instead, they are kept at home by their families to collect water for their families. The German Embassy-sponsored water project eliminated this problem and now they are able to attend school.



Women dig the pipeline and, as did other villagers, become familiar with the project, empowering them to fix possible future problems.



Villagers did the ditch from the water source to the water reservoir.



Project water pipe.





Each household obtained tap water. Ms. Limo ལུ་མོ། (b. 1963) is a Jianke Village native. There are six people in her family. Collecting water was her task; she hauled water thrice daily. Each water-fetching-trip time required 1.5 hours.



Ms. Yizho གཡེས་རྒྱོན། (b. 1939) is one of the oldest women who collected water in this village. Now, she no longer must worry about this onerous task. There are five people in her family--her son, daughter-in-law, grandson, granddaughter, and herself. Both of her grandchildren are students; (junior middle school and primary school). Because they attend school they had no time to fetch water. Her son and daughter-in-law frequently are absent from the village, earning cash in temporary jobs or collecting medicinal herbs. Consequently, hauling water was her duty. Her life today is much improved, thanks to the German Embassy in Beijing.



Luzho ལུམ་ཐོག་ (1976) has six people in her family; her 2 daughters, son, mother-in-law, herself, and her husband. Her children are too young to carry water and her mother-in-law is very old. Her husband usually herds animals. Hauling water was her task.



Mr. Huadan རྒྱལ་ཁྱེན། (b.1971). His wife had trouble walking and she could not carry water. Hauling water was his task, preventing him from working outside the village to earn cash income. Thanks to the German Embassy in Beijing, he can leave the home and earn cash income. This will much improve the family's situation.



The German Embassy sponsored water project made it very convenient for villagers to construct adobe houses in the local style. Mr. Danzhen འཕྲུག་མགྲིན། (center) had planned to repair his house for years, but because of little water, he delayed until this year. Right after the completion of the water project, he began his repairs.



Adobe walls are very easy to build because of the current easy access to water, thanks to the German Embassy in Beijing.



Lerjiater visited the project site village and interviewed village elders about the water project, such as Mr. Donzhi རོན་འགྲུབ།, who said that the water project had created great convenience for his family. He had planned to reconstruct his house for years, but he was unable to because of the lack of water. He started to build his house right after the water project was completed. It only took 10 days to finish. He also said that certain other families are going to build houses this year.



Villagers erected a concrete plaque in the village to commemorate the German Embassy contribution.





Villagers had a simple celebration after completing the German Embassy water project. They greatly appreciate the German Embassy for helping them.

# Project Team

Name	Responsibilities	Occupation
Lerjiater (Aaron)	Project applicant, project manager	University student
Kevin Stuart	Supervisor	English language teacher
Steve Frediani	Supervisor	English language teacher
Zhoben ལྷོལ་འབྲུམ།	Supervisor	Township leader
Guo Yongchen	Supervisor	Township Communist Party Secretary
Danzhen	Project manager	Villager
Hangdan དབང་ལྷན།	Project applicant, manager	Villager
Ganga གངས་དགལ།	Project applicant, manager	Villager
Puhua ལུང་པ།	Project manager	Village Communist Party Sectary
Gene	Project labor manager	Village leader
Cailo ཚེ་ལོ།	Project manager	Villager
Pucu ལུང་ཚེ་གས།	Material manager	Villager
Sunan གསོད་ནམས།	Material manager	Villager
Khazho མཁའ་འགྲོ།	Labor manager (female member)	Villager
Zhu Xiaojian	Construction expert	Construction expert

Dear German Embassy,

We are pleased to report on the satisfactory completion of a water project for an impoverished Tibetan village in Jinyuan Tibetan Autonomous Township, Hualong Hui Autonomous County, Haidong Region, Qinghai Province, the People's Republic of China. The project was completed August 18, 2007. Now, 42 families and a village school in Jianke Tibetan Village have a clean, reliable, and sufficient water supply in their family courtyards.

This project benefited 45 households (330 people) and a village school with 32 students and 1 teacher--in total 362 people. This water project solved the major problem of this village; drinking water. Now, the villagers are released from the time consuming work of collecting water. It also created leisure-time for the villagers. They can use this time to improve their living conditions, through doing other things such as working in the fields to improve crops yield. The villagers also are able to more easily leave the village to earn money by doing temporary construction work. After the completion of this project, some villagers left to work at construction in Xining City; some women went to other areas to harvest for others in return for cash payment to increase their families' income.

The number of students in this village has increased this year because of this water project. All the children who were kept at homes to fetch water now attend schools. They will have more time to spend on their study and will be able to improve their study.

Women and girls from this village feel much freer now that they are released from the burden of fetching water. Part of this "new time" will be spent in farming work that will improve crop yields.

Sanitation and personal hygiene of the villagers has improved. Villagers are able to wash their clothes frequently. Additionally, this project also made it easier to build houses in the local style. Hoses are used to bring water to construction sites. A hose can also be used to bring water to house roofs to easily add a new coating of mud. This saves the huge effort that was required previously to construct and repair adobe homes.

Villagers are also able to water vegetables in their individual gardens and plant more trees. The villagers will spend less money on the vegetables and it will improve the nutrition of the villagers. The villagers can also use the water to irrigate the nearby fields in order to improve crop yields.

Here, on behalf of the villagers in Jianke Tibetan Village, we express our deep gratitude for your generous support and help.

Sincerely yours,

Shar Dzong Development Group & Local Project Committee

# Final Report

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- 1. Project Title:** Jianke Tibetan Village Water System Project.
- 2. Project Applicants:** Lerjiater (Aaron) & Jianke Village Water Project Committee
- 3. Supervisors:** Kevin Stuart & Steve Frediani
- 4. Project Location:** Jianke Tibetan Village, Jinyuan Tibetan Autonomous Township,  
Hualong Hui Autonomous County, Haidong Region, Qinghai Province
- 5. The German Embassy contribution:** 71,300 RMB.
- 6. Local Contribution:** 68,250 RMB.
- 7. Total project value:** 139,550 RMB.
- 9. Implementing Agency:** Shar Dzong Development Group, Local Water Project Committee & Aaron
  - Contact Person 1: Lerjiater (Aaron); Awuju ཨ་ རྒྱལ། Village, Jinyuan Township, Hualong County, Haidong Region, Qinghai Province.
  - Email: [aaronhualong@gmail.com](mailto:aaronhualong@gmail.com)
  - Tel: 139-9748-3719
  - Contact person 2: Gene; Jianke Village, Jinyuan Township, Hualong County, Haidong Region, Qinghai Province
- 11. Start date of the project:** July 2, 2007
- 12. End date of the project:** August 18, 2007

# Project Implementation Record

Participants	Accomplishment	2007
Aaron	Met Dr. Stuart.	March
Aaron & villagers	Announced German Embassy approval.	March
Aaron & villagers	Met with villagers to discuss the project. Villagers chose 5 project committee members including 1 female member.	March
Aaron & Project Committee	Organized villagers to prepare sand and stone.	April
Villagers	Villagers left to collect medicinal herbs and could not work on the water project	May-June
Aaron and Project Committee	Met with the project committee and the villagers to discuss water system design and project implementation	July
Aaron & Project Committee	Met with a specialist to design the system and the water reservoirs	July
Villagers	Dug ditches from the water source to the reservoirs.	July
Villagers	Made a path passable for tractors to transport cement, stone and sand to the water source	July
Project Committee & Aaron	Transported materials to the water source	July
Villagers	Collected stones and sand	July
Villagers	Transported stones and sand to the site	July
Villagers	Dug water collector box	July
Experts & Villagers	Built water reservoirs.	July
Villagers	Dug ditches from the water reservoir to each household	July
Aaron	Project monitoring	July
Villagers	Covered the water reservoir with concrete blocks.	August
Villagers	Connected pipes	August
Villagers	Built freeze-proof wells in the family yards	August
Villagers	Installed taps and hoses	August
Villagers	Water piped to each home	August
Aaron & Township leaders	Project monitoring.	August
Township leaders, Aaron and villagers	Completion celebration	August
Aaron & SDDG members	Visited the project site village and interviewed villagers about the project.	September
Aaron	Wrote final report.	October

# Background

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This village had hoped to do a water project for years. In time, the villagers approached Lerjiater for help. He then visited the project and, with local villagers, wrote a proposal, and the German Embassy approved it. The project started in early July and was completed August 18, 2007. Now, water each household has tap water and a freeze-proof well in order to prevent pipes from freezing in winter.

This project provided Tibetan families with a supply of clean, convenient and reliable water. Currently, the villagers, especially women and girls, are released from the time consuming work burden of hauling water from a river 3 km downhill from the village. As a result, women can work on other tasks to improve their living conditions. Some women have left the village for wage work. The girls who used to be kept at homes to fetch water now attend school.

This project has created a more convenient and sufficient water source to irrigate fields nearby the village, water vegetables, and there now is the potential to have greenhouses to extend the growing season - all of which will help improve local people's quality of life. This new water system will also allow them to raise pigs.

Villagers will be able to wash their clothes more easily and frequently to improve their personal hygiene and sanitation level. Planting trees for shade and wind protection is also now a possibility. This new water will also make it easier to do construction projects in the village.

This project has eliminated conflicts between villagers and families for water and also the dangers villagers face when they fetched water during rainy and snowy weather.

The benefits of this project are:

1. Relieves women and girls of a time-consuming work burden.
2. Makes local construction work easier.
3. Improves personal hygiene levels and the sanitation situation in the village.
4. Increases the number of students, especially girls.
5. Allows crops and vegetables to be watered.
6. Allows villagers to raise pigs to increase family income.
7. More villagers can now leave the village to improve their cash income.

**On September 10, 2007 Aaron personally visited the project site and interviewed several villagers. Here is what one said:**



Gene (b.1960) is the leader of Jianke Village. He said, "Water was the most serious problem for this village. The villagers suffered from the time consuming work of fetching water for many years. With generous support from the German Embassy, we now have a source of clean, sufficient and reliable water this year. Before this project, most families fetched water three or four times per day. Each time required 1 hour for the roundtrip. Especially, families who keep animals spent time collecting water. People rarely washed their clothes and took baths; the personal hygiene and sanitation of this village was very poor. Villagers used to stay at home to fetch water. Those families had a low cash income. Some families have plenty of land to plant vegetables, but they could not use it because of the lack of water. Some school-aged children were kept at home to fetch water and those kids lost the golden time of the study. That negatively affected their future life and the education quality of

Jianke Village. We tried to raise money to do this project for ages, but it was not successful. This year, the German Embassy generously supported this project and we successfully implemented the project. Now, the problems mentioned above have all been solved through this project. After this water project, there is much construction work in this village, and some villagers have plans to grow vegetables and trees in the following years. On behalf of all the villagers, I greatly appreciate your help and kindness."

# Financial Accounting

## Funds Received: Documentation





## Expenditures

Item	Details	Unit Price	Total Price	German Contribution	Local Contribution	Receipt
Plastic pipe	5,144 kg	11.3 RMB/kg	58,120.00	58,127.20	0.00	1
Cement	300 bags	16 RMB/bag	4,000.00	4,800.00	0.00	2
Metal wires	160 pieces	17.3 RMB/p	2,768.00	2,768.00	0.00	2
Hose	225 m	7 RMB/m	2,025.00	2,025.00	0.00	3
Metal pipes	135 pieces	12 RMB/piece	1,485.00	1,485.00	0.00	3
Salary for the skilled worker	30 days	70RMB/day/person	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.00	4
Metal joints	180 pieces	1.5 RMB/piece	270.00	0.00	270.00	5
Control switch # 50	4 pieces	50 RMB/switch	200.00	0.00	200.00	5
Control switch # 25	90 pieces	8 RMB/switch	720.00	0.00	720.00	5
Distributors (φ32--φ25)	90 pieces	4 RMB	360.00	0.00	360.00	5
Pipe connector	15 pieces	12 RMB/piece	180.00	0.00	180.00	6
Metal string	40 kg	8 RMB/kg	320.00	0.00	320.00	6
Taps	90 pieces	7 RMB	630.00	0.00	630.00	6
Transportation fee for cement	300 bags	2 RMB/bags	600.00	0.00	600.00	7
Transportation fee for pipes	Lanzhou-Jianke		1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00	8
Transportation fee for metal wires	Hualong-Jianke		350.00	0.00	350.00	9
Salary for material caretaker	30 days	25 RMB/day		0.00	750.00	10
Total				71,305.20	5,980.00	

**Details:** There were four kinds of plastic used in this project, in total weighing 5,144 kg.

Type	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price (RMB)
Plastic pipe #50	2,375.78	11.3RMB/kg	20,340 .00
Plastic pipe #40	975.72	11.3 RMB/ kg	11,625.00
Plastic pipe #32	1,241.85	11.3 RMB/ kg	9,555.00
Plastic pipe #25	550.65	11.3 RMB/ kg	1,397.50
Total	5,144	11.3 RMB/kg	58,127.20

**Total Local Contribution: 68,250 RMB.**

Prices for materials were higher than stated in the original budget. Local beneficiaries then contributed 150 RMB per household--a total of 6,000RMB in cash to cover the unexpected costs and to pay the transportation fee for tractors to transport materials to the project site.

**Labor:** In total, 45 villagers worked 58 days on various activities such as transporting sand and stone, digging ditches, burying plastic pipes, building reservoirs, and building the freeze-proof wells. If 1 person working for 1 day is valued at 25 RMB, this represents a local contribution of 62,250 RMB. (45 villagers X 58 day labors X 25 RMB = 65,250 RMB)

**Cash:** 6,000 RMB.

*\*20 rmb remained from the local contribution and will be used to print the final report and post it to the donor.*

# Receipts

**收 据**

入帐日期: 2007 年 7 月 15 日

收款单位: 化隆县金源乡材料村 收款方式: 现金

人民币(大写): 伍万捌仟壹佰贰拾柒元贰角 58127.20

收款事由: 购买材料

单位盖章: [Red Stamp: 化隆县金源乡材料村]

财务主管: 利

出纳: 办

会计: 办

日期: 2007 年 7 月 15 日

**送 货 单**

No. 068

年 7 月 20 日 收货单位或地点: 金源乡材料村

货号	名称及规格	单位	数量	单价	金额
	水泥	袋	300	16.00	4800.00
	钢筋	根	160	17.30	2768.00

合计金额(大写): 柒仟伍佰伍拾捌元 柒角 分 7568.00元

送货单位经办人: 马 收货单位盖章: 验收人:

**收款收据**

No. 126

收款单位: 金源乡材料村

名称	单位	数量	单价	金额
软管	米	225	7.00	2025.00
金厚管	根	125	12.00	1485.00

合计金额(大写): 叁仟伍佰壹拾元 柒角 分 3510.00元

主管: 会计: 出纳: 王



**收条**

今收到金派乡共料木付来水项目手2黄

贰仟壹佰元正。(2100.00)

注: 30天, 每天70元正。(30X70=2100.00)

收款人: 朱金

2007.8.15

**收款收据** No. 1 31

交款单位: 金派乡共料木付来水项目手2黄

2007年 11月 11日

名 称	单 位	数 量	单 价	金 额				备 注
				十	万	千	百	
木板	个	180	15			2	700.00	
1米线 #50	个	4	50			2	00.00	
1米线 #25	个	90	8			7	20.00	
合水	个	90	10			2	60.00	
合计金额 (大写)	拾	万	壹	千	壹	百	伍拾 元 捌 角 捌 分	¥1550.00

主管: 会计: 出纳: 王

**收款收据** No. 61 35

交款单位: 金派乡共料木付来水项目手2黄

2007年 11月 11日

名 称	单 位	数 量	单 价	金 额				备 注
				十	万	千	百	
粗米管板	个	15	12			1	800.00	
1米线	个	40	8			3	200.00	
木板	个	90	7			6	300.00	
合计金额 (大写)	拾	万	壹	千	壹	百	叁拾 元 捌 角 捌 分	¥1130.00

主管: 会计: 出纳: 王

收条

今收到运费陆佰元整 (600.00)

注: 化隆 - 金源 - 尖科村

收款人: 长顺

2007.7.28

7

收条

今收到运费壹仟陆佰元整 (1600.00)

注: 兰州 - 什隆 - 金源 - 尖科

收款人: 陈

07.7.15.

8

收条

今收到运费叁佰伍拾元 (350.00)

注: 化隆 - 金源 - 尖科

收款人: 李山

9

ଅର୍ପଣ ବିଳା

ମୁଁ ବିଳାସ ବହୁଳ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାବହୁ ଅର୍ପଣ ବ୍ୟାଂସ୍ୟ । (ସେବା ନ ଡିଏ ୩୦ ଡିଏ ୧  
 ଶିକ୍ଷା ସମ୍ପାଦନା ପରିଶିଷ୍ଟ ଡିଏ ଅର୍ପଣ)

ଅର୍ପଣ ବିଳା : ଡିଏ ବିଳା

*Original Project Proposal*

# Jianke Tibetan Village Water System Project

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Project site



This is the stream that serves as the current water source.





Dorji (b. 1994) returning with two buckets of water on his donkey from a stream, 3km down from the village. He dropped out of school in order to fetch water.

**Botschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland**  
**Peking Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany**

**Questionnaire for applying funds for small scale projects at the German Embassy Beijing**

**Name of the project:** Running Water Project for an Impoverished Tibetan Village

**Who is applying for the funding?**

- **Contact person:** Kevin Stuart PhD & Lerjiater (Aaron)
- **Address:** Qinghai Nationalities Teacher's Collage, Qinghai Normal University, Xining City, 810008, Qinghai Province, PR China.
- **Telephone:** 0971-6318505
- **Fax:** None
- **E-mail:** [kevinstuart@gmail.com](mailto:kevinstuart@gmail.com)

**Who is responsible for carrying out the project? (Name, contact person, address, phone, fax, e-mail)**

Shar Dzung Development Group, Local Village Project Committee & Lerjiater

- **Contact person:** Lerjiater
- **Address:** Qinghai Nationalities Teacher's Collage, Qinghai Normal University, Xining City, 810008, Qinghai Province, PR China.
- **Telephone:** 0971-3632163
- **Fax:** None
- **E-mail:** [aaronhualong@gmail.com](mailto:aaronhualong@gmail.com)

**Where is the project located? (Information regarding the province, region, population, etc.)**

- Jianke Tibetan Village, Jinyuan Tibetan Autonomous Township, Hualong Hui Autonomous County, Haidong Region, Qinghai Province, China.
- This village has 45 households (330 people).
- Total beneficiaries = 330 people.

**Does the (local) government agree with the project? Yes.**

**What is the goal of the project? (Detailed description of the project)**

The objective is to provide reliable tap water to each household in Jianke Village. The water supply situation for this village is extremely difficult. Villagers currently have to fetch water from a stream 3 km downhill from the village. The track is very narrow and steep. When it snows or rains, donkeys and people have a hard time climbing back to the village. It is also dangerous, because it is very steep and muddy. The water is not very clean, because animals and people use the same water source. This situation has caused illnesses. Carrying water is traditionally females' work. Most families keep their children at home to fetch water. This negatively impacted the village literacy rate and overall education levels. There is a local joke that Jianke Village residents cannot even calculate their electricity bills, an indication of their low level of education.

Because of these reasons, villagers repeatedly applied to the local government for assistance. In 2002, the local government supported this project and they got water from a spring 1.5 km from the village. There were taps in each village house. Beginning in 2003, the water ceased flowing in winter (from November - May). It only came May - October. Villagers had to collect water from the stream as before. Last year, the water totally stopped. Villagers tried to repair the system several times but it did not work. Now, the water supply situation for this village is back to the old situation. Villagers once again trudge 3 km from the village to carry water on their donkeys. It takes about 1.5 hours per collection trip. Water needs to be collected twice a day in summer and three times daily in winter. In winter, villagers need more water, because some of their livestock stay at home and they have to feed those animals.

Most families choose girls to perform the water carrying since the tap water stopped. These school-aged children do not attend school because of the water situation, otherwise they would. Women traditionally weed the crops and the time taken gathering water means less time working at this important task. As a result, crop yields have decreased. Furthermore, during the caterpillar fungus-harvesting season, elderly villagers carry water because younger ones have left to dig caterpillar fungus to earn cash. Caterpillar fungus is the main source of cash income for the villagers. However, some villagers who have very elderly parents are unable to go to dig caterpillar fungus because of the water situation.

There is a good solution: there is a plentiful source of good quality water 3 kilometers east of the village, which villagers are very eager to tap. Their dream is to bring the water to the village by gravity-fed pipes and to have each house supplied with its own tap water. Assistance in the amount of 71,297RMB will remove many of the labor, health and psychological stresses that plague these villagers.

If the project is funded, the effort that is required to collect water will be eliminated. Women and girls will be released from this time-consuming task and will have more time for other activities such as weeding or much-deserved leisure. Girls who are kept at home to carry water will be able to attend school if they are relieved of this burden. Villagers who are currently unable leave to dig caterpillar fungus will be able to go if they have convenient water access. This project has the potential to increase the number of educated local women, which will increase the opportunities available to local women.

By having a fresh, stable water source, these villagers will benefit in many ways. Currently they cannot irrigate their fields, water their vegetables, or have greenhouses to extend their growing season, all of which would help improve their quality of life. This new water will also allow them to raise pigs for cash and self-consumption (pigs are not herd animals and cannot walk to other water sources). Finally, they will be able to wash their clothes with more ease and plant trees for shade and wind protection.

**What are the expected costs of this project? (Detailed budget proposal for entire project)**

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price RMB
Plastic pipe 5.0 cm	3,000 meters	12.4 RMB/m	37200.00
Plastic pipe 3.2cm	1,500 meters	8 RMB/m	12,000.00
Plastic pipe 2.5 cm	1,000 meters	6.5 RMB/m	6500.00
Taps	90 pieces	5 RMB	450.00
Hose	225 m	7 RMB/m	1575.00
Metal pipes	135 pieces	11 RMB/piece	1485.00
Metal joints	180 pieces	1.5 RMB/piece	270.00
Control switch # 50	4	60 RMB/switch	240.00
Control switch # 25	90	8 RMB/switch	720.00
Distributors (φ32--φ25)	90 pieces	4 RMB	360.00
Pipe connector	15 pieces	5 RMB/piece	75.00
Cement	240 bags	16 RMB/bag	3,840.00
Metal wire	160 pieces	14.7 RMB/	2,352.00
Metal string	40 kg	8 RMB/kg	320.00
Salary for the skilled worker	30 days	50 RMB/day/person	1,500.00
Transportation fee for cement	280 bags	2 RMB/bags	560.00
Transportation fee for pipes	Lanzhou- Jianke		1,400.00
Transportation fee for metal wires	Dahejia - Jianke		450.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>71,297.00</b>

**What will be the contribution of the local population?**

Item	Quantity	Unit Price RMB	Total RMB
Sand	50 tractors	80 RMB/tractor	4,000
Stone	30 tractors	80 RMB/tractor	2,400
Labor	45 people/ 75 days	25 RMB/person/day	84,375
<b>Total</b>			<b>90,775</b>

**What is the expected timeframe for this project?**

2007 June→ Receive funds.  
2007 June→ Hold Community meeting and select project committee.  
2007 July→ Prepare the local materials.  
2007→ August Start digging the ditch.  
2007 August→ Purchase and transport the materials to the project site.  
2007 August→ Build the water reservoirs.  
2007 September→ Project is completed.  
2007 October→ Send final report.

**Who will be responsible for the sustainability of this project?**

Local villagers will select a local project maintenance group to be responsible for the sustainability of the project. This will occur right after the project is complete. This group will collect 1 RMB per person per year for maintenance of the project. That would be 330 RMB per year. If the water system has a problem, villagers will use that money to repair the system.

**Are resulting costs expected? No****Are other donors/ organizations involved? No.****Additional information:**

Several Jianke villagers and the Jianke Village leader (Gene), approached Lerjiater with their hope for a new water system project after learning of Lerjiater's experience in proposing and managing local development projects. On May 2, 2006, Lerjiater and Steve Frediani, a teacher in ETP program at Qinghai Normal University, visited Jianke Village to perform a needs assessment.

Lerjiater and Steve Frediani consider this a necessary and justified project after visiting the proposed project site and interviewing local villagers. The local villagers themselves believe this to be an important project, mostly for economic reasons. Local villagers also acknowledge environmental benefits from this project, such as the amelioration of erosion by planting trees. Without sufficient water the trees do not grow well.

The direct beneficiaries are the 330 Tibetans in the 45 households that comprise Jianke Village. This village is widely considered to be the poorest village in Jinyuan Township. The village leader estimates that village income averages 200-300RMB per person per year. This is earned mostly through digging caterpillar fungus during the spring and summer and selling it to local traders. With average incomes between 200-300 RMB per year, the majority of households accumulate large debts. The village leader approximates that average household outstanding debts are between 5,000-6,000RMB. Several households have outstanding debts of about 20,000 RMB.

Most income comes from collecting and then selling caterpillar fungus. In the average year, villagers do not earn enough to cover their expenses. However, the village leader says that about every five years or so, caterpillar fungus becomes more abundant and households earn much more than usual, perhaps more than 5,000 RMB. At this time, households pay off as much of their debts as they can.

The village has 258 *mu* of irrigated land and 300 *mu* of non-irrigated land. The irrigated land is used mostly for wheat, the staple crop of many local Tibetan villages, which is then used to make bread and noodles. Villagers grow potatoes, rapeseed, beans and barley on the non-irrigated land. Barley is

mostly used to feed livestock. Current wheat yields average 150 kg per *mu*. This is inadequate for an average household's yearly needs. Therefore, the average household purchases about 1,000 kg of wheat each year. Local wheat sellers and wealthier families have been willing to loan out wheat on interest. A 50 kg sack of wheat costs 113 RMB at current prices. This represents an average household expenditure for wheat of about 2,200 RMB per year. The village has approximately 200 yaks and 1,000 sheep.

Clearly, the villagers cannot afford to do this project by themselves. The villagers have petitioned the local government twice in the past for this project but were ignored both times.